

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs ● (816) 426-4220 ● 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 ● Kansas City, MO 64106

WWW.usdoj.gov/usao/mow

APRIL 28, 2004 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TWO MEXICAN NATIONALS INDICTED IN COCAINE CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that two Mexican nationals living in Kansas City, Mo., were indicted by a federal grand jury today for participating in a conspiracy to distribute cocaine.

Victor Hugo Canales, 24, and **Oscar Ortuno**, 27, who are citizens of Mexico living in Kansas City, were charged in a three-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Canales** and **Ortuno** participated in a conspiracy to possess and distribute cocaine from March 20 to April 8, 2004.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Canales** distributed cocaine in Kansas City on April 6, 2004.

Count Three of the federal indictment alleges that **Ortuno** possessed with intent to distribute cocaine in Kansas City on April 8, 2004.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David DeTar Newbert. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States

Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow